Natasha Moskal

October 16, 2015

EDC 102

Chapter 5 Reflection

After reading chapter five, there are many philosophies that I found to be interesting, as well as appeal to my own feelings about schooling. The first philosophy that I connected with is constructivism. As stated in the book, “The constructivism philosophy emphasizes personal meaning through hands-on, activity based teaching and learning. This is something that I can connect with because of the fact that I am a hands on learner. Sitting in a classroom listening and taking notes all day, makes it harder for me to retain all the information. When I am given real examples and am able to see things hands on, this is where I am able to fully retain the information that is being taught to me. I also feel like I learn the most information when teachers make the students come up with the answers together and not give everything right to them. For example, having discussion groups and talking about topics together is something that I love, and also something that makes me learn the most. Teaching techniques that reflect collectivism would be the type of environment where students are free and can discover his or her own answer to important topics and questions. Compared to lecturing, teachers should take the time to have opportunities to better learn information. I will never forget in high school when I was reading The Great Gatsby in English, and the teacher would stand off to the side and watch the whole class discuss in a big group. I loved the book, but I loved it so much because I felt I really learned a lot about my capabilities and breaking down all the information. Collectivism is a great philosophy, and I feel that it should be used in every classroom.

Along with collectivism, the second philosophy that I found to be interesting as well as connected to is humanism. As stated in the book, “Humanism is an educational philosophy that is concerned with enhancing the innate good-ness of the individual”. Humanism can be connected to a good educational system and is really focused on an individual development of the student. This reminds me of the group discussion we shared as a classroom during the last class because we talked about keeping up with a national standard versus a child learning other characteristics. The last chapter talked about how keeping up with the national standard was important, but so was a child being curious, and picking up on other characteristics. Collectivism also says that teachers tend to turn students into objects to be measured, which I couldn’t agree more with. I feel as though having a good relationship between the teacher and student is so important. This philosophy believes that education should be a process of developing a free, self-actualizing person, which is focused on the student’s feelings. I think that student’s would be a lot more willing to learn if more schools focused on humanism. I think that this would make the world a lot place meaning that I think this philosophy has long term effects. A student that had this technique in a classroom would be a lot different then students today. I think that students would be learning to be more independent and grow as a person, which is something students are not learning today. Students are learning in my opinion to be dependent on their teacher, and wait for things to be spelled out to them all the time. I think humanism is a very eye opening philosophy.